APPARATUS AND METHOD TO INITIALIZE INFORMATION DISPOSED IN AN INFORMATION STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL SYSTEM

Abstract

A method to initialize information disposed in an information storage and

5   retrieval system comprising a data cache and one or more information storage media

comprising a plurality of addresses. The method receives an initialization command,

where that initialization command comprises a range of addresses and, optionally, an

initialization pattern, where the plurality of addresses includes the range of addresses.

The method forms and saves state information, where that state information includes the

10   initialization pattern, and generates and saves a plurality of indicators, where that

plurality of indicators includes an indicator for each track comprising the range of

addresses. The method sets each of those indicators to a first value thereby indicating

special handling, and provides an ending status signal, such that the receiving step,

forming step, generating step, setting step, and providing step are performed substantially

15   synchronously.